

Indiana Dunes State Park

1600 N. 25 E.

Chesterton, Indiana 46304

NC # (219) 926-1390

Park Manager: Brandt Baughman

Asst. Park Manager: Mickey Rea



Nature Center Staff:

Brad Bumgardner

Kaitlin Rogers



January Nature Center Hours:

9:30am - 4:30pm CST, Closed Mon-Wed

www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

Need a Park Map?

All programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. Children under 12, please bring an adult.

Friday, January 1

Happy New Year!

Nature Center Closed Today

10am First Day Hike: 3DC! As part of a 50 state initiative, America's State Parks First Day Hikes offer individuals and families an opportunity to begin the New Year rejuvenating and connecting with the outdoors by taking a healthy hike on January 1. Meet Assistant Property Manager Mickey Rea for a special 3 Dune Challenge hike this morning. We'll explore recent park projects and possible ice shelf formation on this hour jaunt, ending with some snacks and a warm fire. Meet at the Nature Center and bring the family! .



Saturday, January 2

10am Snowshoe Shuffle! Meet the park interpreter in the Nature Center for a little introduction to this unique mode of winter transportation. Then we'll jump on a pair and take a short walk through the winter woods. Its great fun and exercise! If there isn't enough snow, we'll still offer a short hike. Join us! KR
2pm Winter Alive! How do animals survive the winter here in the dunes? Visit the Nature Center Auditorium as we explore winter survival techniques with a few of the park residents. We'll have a few of the resident critters out this afternoon too! Great family program! KR

Sunday January 3

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

2pm 100 Years of Indiana State Parks. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this 50-minute documentary that captures 100 years of the Indiana State Parks. It was produced in 2009 by PBS and shows great scenes from your favorite parks as we celebrate our 100 year anniversary in 2016. Come on out!

Saturday January 9

10am Winter Hike into Beaver Bayou! Join us at the Campground Gate for a short stroll to the newly created beaver damn, lodge, and the neat flooded area they have created. With leaves down, they should be easier to see. Grab the family and join us! KR

2pm Oh Deer! Visit the Nature Center Auditorium this afternoon as we look into the life of one of the largest mammals in the dunes. We'll look at issues parks face with too many deer, as well as how we manage our herds. KR



Sunday, January 10

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. KR

2pm Winter Herps! Visit the Nature Center for a look at how our wintering snakes, turtles, and frogs survive the cold winter in the dunes. We'll have some of the resident Nature Center animals out too! KR

Friday, January 15

6pm Indiana Dunes Birding Festival Birds and Brews! The park and Indiana Audubon host these monthly gatherings of bird enthusiasts at The Craft House, in Chesterton. This month's theme is bird art as we unveil the official Indiana Dunes Birding Festival commemorative poster. The monthly event is free and open to any age. Join us!



Saturday, January 16

Welcome Geocachers to the Indiana Dunes Geocache Adventure!

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

11:30am Indiana Dunes Geocache Adventure: A Hot Cocoa Affair! Explore the Indiana Dunes with your GPS unit, and win prizes too! The Geocache Adventure is an annual geocaching event that lets geocachers in the tri-state area compete and have fun. The day ends with a chili-dump at the Nature Center to warm our cold bones. For registering and for more information visit geocaching.com, and search zip code 46304.

Sunday, January 17

10am Snowshoe Shuffle to the Governor's Cottage! Meet the guest interpreter Jessica Rosier in the Nature Center for a little introduction to this unique mode of winter transportation. Then we'll jump on a pair and take a steeper dunes trek through the winter woods to the old governor's home near the beach. Its great fun and exercise! If there isn't enough snow, we'll still offer a hike. Join us! JR

2pm 100 Years of Indiana State Parks. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this 50-minute documentary that captures 100 years of the Indiana State Parks. It was produced in 2009 by PBS and shows great scenes from your favorite parks. Come on out!

Saturday, January 23

10am Snowshoe Shuffle! Meet the park interpreter in the Nature Center for a little introduction to this unique mode of winter transportation. Then we'll jump on a pair and take a short walk through the winter woods. Its great fun and exercise! If there isn't enough snow, we'll still offer a short hike. Join us! BB

2pm Dunes Through Four Seasons. Enjoy the dunes from the comfort of the heated Nature Center auditorium. We'll explore the winter beauty and summer sights and sounds all in this 45 minute photographic tour. BB

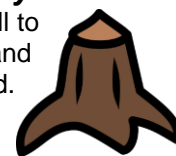
Sunday, January 24

10am Bird Banding Demonstrations. Explore the science of bird banding this morning at the Nature Center. We'll throw up the banding nets and look at everything we learn by investigating these birds up close and in the hand. We'll be banding for an hour or so. Come join us! BB

2pm 100 Years of Indiana State Parks. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this 50-minute documentary that captures 100 years of the Indiana State Parks. It was produced in 2009 by PBS and shows great scenes from your favorite parks as we celebrate our 100 year anniversary in 2016. Come on out!

Saturday, January 30

10am Winter Hike into Beaver Bayou! Join us at the Campground Gate for a short stroll to the newly created beaver damn, lodge, and the neat flooded area they have created. With leaves down, they should be easier to see. Grab the family and join us! BB



2pm Behind the Scenes of the Dunes Nature Center. Like museums, our nature centers are treasure troves of artifacts and mysteries. Explore some of these lesser seen items during this exploratory 45 minute program at the Nature Center. BB

Sunday, February 1

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

2pm 100 Years of Indiana State Parks. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this 50-minute documentary that captures 100 years of the Indiana State Parks. It was produced in 2009 by PBS and shows great scenes from your favorite parks. Come on out!